

Message Text

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SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR CSCE

INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. KISSINGER TRIP AND CAMBODIA ARE RECENT
FEATURED PRESS SUBJECTS. LITTLE COMMENT. MONDAY BALTSUN
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INSIDE HAD MOSCOW REUTER, PRAVDA CRITICIZES KISSINGER

STEP-BY-STEP EFFORT IN MIDEAST AS INADEQUATE; ALSO HAD PARKS MOSCOW REPORTING MOLOTOV MALENKOV KAGANOVICH ARE AGED NON-PERSONS ON PENSIONS AS WAS BULGANIN.

1A. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST INSIDE REPORTED DISSIDENTS CIRCULATE NEW JOURNAL IN MOSCOW CRITICAL OF KREMLIN STYLE; THURSDAY NYTIMES HAS COMPARABLE PIECE. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST ALSO HAD BRIEFS HEADED BREZHNEV'S HEALTH AND NOTICE BY SOVIETS. WEDNESDAY WASHSTAR REPORTED SOVIET BLAST; ALSO FRONTPAGED INTERVIEW WITH ACDA'S IKLE ON NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS.

2. NUCLEAR ITEMS. IKLE INTERVIEW STRESSED NEED FOR SAFEGUARDS AGAINST NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND CRIMINAL MANUFACTURE OF NUCLEAR DEVICES, REFERRING TO NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE IN MAY AND IAEA EFFORTS TO IMPROVE PHYSICAL

SECURITY OF NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS.

2A. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST HAD FOR THE RECORD SQUIB SAYING ERDA ANNOUNCED THAT SEISMIC SIGNALS INDICATED A SOVIET UNDERGROUND EXPLOSION TUESDAY. WASHSTAR LOCAL AP ADDED THAT SIGNALS ORIGINATED FROM SEMIPALATINSK NUCLEAR TEST AREA AND THIS BLAST OF BETWEEN 20 AND 200 KILOTONS WAS THE SECOND DETECTED AND ANNOUNCED BY ERDA THIS YEAR.

3. SOVIET ITEMS. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST HAD SHORT MOSCOW ITEM REPORTING THAT SOVIET UNION, HAVING TAKEN THE UNUSUAL STEP OF MAKING PUBLIC IN ADVANCE THAT MANEUVERS WOULD BE HELD IN THE EUROPEAN AREA, FOLLOWED UP BY ANNOUNCING THE COMPLETION OF THE TRAINING EXERCISES. ITEM ADDS THAT WESTERN DIPLOMATS SAID THE MOVES WERE A GOODWILL GESTURE TOWARD DEMANDS BY NATO COUNTRIES AT THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE IN GENEVA THAT ALL SUCH MANEUVERS BE ADVERTISED IN ADVANCE.

3A. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST ITEM FROM DUBLIN REPORTED THAT EUROPEAN OFFICIALS ATTENDING THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE OF COMMON MARKET COUNTRIES SAID CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, UNCLASSIFIED

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PRIME MINISTER WILSON, PRESIDENT GISCARD AGREED THAT THEIR ENCOUNTERS WITH BREZHNEV OVER THE LAST FIVE MONTHS SHOW HIS HEALTH IS FAILING, WITH DUTCH PREMIER JOOP DEN UYL SAYING IN A BRIEFING: WE HEARD SO MANY DOUBTS ABOUT BREZHNEV'S HEALTH THAT WE HAVE TO WONDER NOW ABOUT THE CONTINUITY OF SOVIET POLICY.

4. SALT. WASHINGTON WHISPERS IN US NEWS FOR MARCH 17

INCLUDES PARA SAYING PRESIDENT FORD HAS BEEN PERSUADED BY HIS NONMILITARY ADVISERS THAT U.S. SHOULD DECIDE JUST WHAT IT NEEDS IN WAY OF NUCLEAR MISSILES AND HOLD FIRM TO THAT NUMBER. PARA SAYS MEANING IS THAT U.S. SHOULD NOT EXPAND ITS STRATEGIC NUCLEAR FORCE UP TO VLADIVOSTOK CEILINGS.

5. COMMENT. TUESDAY NYTIMES HAD HERBERT MITGANG COLUMN SAYING DESPITE ARGUMENTS THAT B-1 BOMBER IS PART OF DEFENSE TRIAD NECESSARY TO NATIONAL SECURITY AND THAT ITS PRODUCTION WILL STIMULATE ECONOMY, CONGRESS SHOWS SIGNS OF RESISTING PENTAGON AND SEEKING LESS COSTLY ALTERNATIVES. MITGANG SAYS FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION IS WHETHER ECONOMY CAN BE STIMULATED BY PEACETIME INDUSTRY RATHER THAN COSTLY MILITARY HARDWARE. INGERSOLL

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